

ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE

labour and holy exercise came first. O most holy Father, it seems that they are teaching us and are exhorting your Holiness to-day, and that they are showing us in what way we can receive the Holy Spirit. What is this way ? That we should keep in the house of knowledge of ourselves, in which knowledge the soul is always humble, neither running to excess in gladness nor yielding to impatience in adversity." " I rejoice that this sweet Mother Mary and sweet Peter, the Prince of the Apostles, have restored you to your own place. Now the eternal Truth wishes you to make in your garden a garden of the servants of God, and to nourish them therein with temporal substance, as they will you with spiritual; so that they will have nought else to do, save cry in the sight of God for the good estate of Holy Church and for your Holiness. These will be the soldiers who will give you perfect victory." ¹ At the beginning of June, Marino surrendered to the Romans ; Rocca di Papa and other *castelli* followed; Giordano Orsini submitted to the Pope. On June 12, Urban issued a triumphant brief to all the Catholic world,^{te} giving thanks to the Most High with ineffable joy of mind." " He who knoweth all things is our witness that, if we thought that we had not entered the sheepfold by the door, we should not have dared to sit in the chair of Peter for an hour." Convinced that God by the Holy Spirit has chosen his weakness to sustain the burden of the universal Church, and that He will never desert her, he is prepared to encounter all dangers and persecutions. Already the storms are abating ; the mercenaries have been defeated ; Sant' Angelo, *non sine miraculo*, has surrendered; his beloved Neapolitan children have driven the Antipope from Naples ; Giovanna has abjured her errors, has acknowledged him as true vicar of Christ and successor of the bearer of the keys, and from day to day he is expecting her ambassadors.²

These ambassadors never came. Giovanna's conversion had only lasted a few weeks. Her envoys were intercepted by a

¹ Letter 351 (20), which the Harleian MS. dates May 30 (Whit Monday), 1379.

^a Raynaldus, vii. pp. 386, 387.